

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 OC-06 CCO-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:DPASSAGE:GJG

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:JDSTODDART

EA/ANP - MR. DORRANCE

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R 192328Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO DOD

CNO

CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247578

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR/AS/US

SUBJECT: DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT

FOLLOWING, FYI, IS THE DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT AGREED TO ON AN AD REFERENDUM BASIS BY SNEIDER AND PRITCHETT, COVERING NORTH WEST CAPE.

1. THE AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE AND THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MET ON 9TH JANUARY TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS BEGUN LAST JUNE REGARDING THE UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION AT NORTH WEST CAPE IN AUSTRALIA AND RELATED MATTERS.

2. IN THE DISCUSSIONS, BOTH MINISTERS NOTED THE STATUS OF THE STATION AS A BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ANZUS TREATY. THEY REAFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THAT TREATY AND THEIR RECOGNITION OF THE CONTINUITY OF THE IMPORTANT COMMON INTERESTS THAT SUSTAINED THE TREATY.

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3. THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE STATION WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL INTEREST AND TO PROVIDE FOR AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STATION. THERE WAS DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THESE MATTERS AND OF THE ROLE OF THE STATION.

4. THE MINISTERS NOTED THAT ONE IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF THE STATION WAS TO SERVE AS A KEY ELEMENT IN A COMPLEX SYSTEM OF COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORTING THE USGLOBAL DETERRENT. THEY NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE DETERRENCE FOR THE PROMOTION OF STABLE RELATIONS AMONG THE MAJOR POWERS AND THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES, INCLUDING AUSTRALIA.

5. THE MINISTERS NOTED THAT STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THEIR TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE ALREADY WELL ESTABLISHED IN BILATERAL CONTACTS AND IN THE ANZUS FORUMS. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR INTENTION, HOWEVER, TO EXTEND AND STRENGTHEN THEIR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAD FULL AND TIMELY INFORMATION ABOUT STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO THE STATION AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE FOR AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL INTERESTS. THESE CONSULTATIONS WILL INCLUDE PERIODIC MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO MINISTERS, OFFICIALS' MEETINGS, AND CONTINUING CONTACT IN THE DIPLOMATIC CHANNEL ON THE WIDE RANGE OF MATTERS AFFECTING THE ROLE AND OPERATIONS OF THE STATION. THEY ALSO RECALLED THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE III OF THE ANZUS TREATY AND CONFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS OF URGENT CONSULTATIONS IN CASE OF DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL CRISIS.

6. THE US SECRETARY OF DEFENSE NOTED THAT THE RAN ALREADY MADE USE OF THE STATION FOR ITS COMMUNICATIONS WITH SURFACE AND SUBMARINE VESSELS AND THAT IT INTENDED GRADUALLY TO INCREASE THIS USE. HE WELCOMED THAT AUSTRALIAN INTENTION TO STATION SOME 15 AUSTRALIAN SERVICE PERSONNEL AT THE STATION DURING 1974 TO MAN AND OPERATE A CONFIDENTIAL

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SEPARATE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER. THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT STANDARD PROVISIONS FOR THE PRIVACY OF NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND RESTRICTED NATIONAL ACCESS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS CENTERS WOULD BE MAINTAINED.

7. THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT, WITH THE USE OF THE STATION AS A JOINT FACILITY AND CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT

OF MAY 1963 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION, AUSTRALIAN PERSONNEL WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE STATION. THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER SAID THAT THE AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION IN THIS FIELD WOULD NUMBER ABOUT 35 AND WOULD MOVE INTO THE STATION TOWARDS THE END OF THE YEAR. THE DETAILS OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE FINALIZED IN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE USN AND THE RAN.

8. THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL PLACE AUSTRALIAN PERSONNEL IN KEY POSITIONS AND ESTABLISH A SUBSTANTIAL AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE STATION. IT WAS AGREED THAT AUSTRALIAN AND US SERVICEMEN WOULD ENJOY COMPATIBLE CONDITIONS CONSISTENT WITH THE SOFA IN REGARD TO SUCH MATTERS AS ACCESS TO CANTEENS, MESSES, SOCIAL CLUBS, AND OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT THE STATION.

9. TO COORDINATE AUSTRALIAN ACTIVITIES AT THE STATION, AN AUSTRALIAN (DEPUTY COMMANDER/SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER) WILL BE APPOINTED. HE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO THE US STATION COMMANDER IN RESPECT OF JOINT OPERATION OF THE STATION AND TO THE AUSTRALIAN (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE) IN RESPECT OF AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL USE OF THE STATION, THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN ELEMENT AND THE REPRESENTATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN INTEREST AT THE STATION.

10. IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS, THE MINISTERS RECOGNIZED THAT THE EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE STATION DEPENDED ON MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE, WITH EACH HAVING FULL REGARD TO THE OTHER'S NATIONAL INTERESTS AND TO THEIR COMMON INTERESTS EXPRESSED IN THE ANZUS TREATY. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE CANDID EXCHANGES THAT HAD

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TAKEN PLACE AND THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND ACCORD THAT HAD DEVELOPED IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE EARLIER EXCHANGE OF LETTERS OF 7TH MAY 1963, BETWEEN THE US AMBASSADOR AND THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, RELATING TO THIS SUBJECT WAS NO LONGER NECESSARY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE247578
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DPASSAGE:GJG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731215/aaaaaknn.tel
Line Count: 160
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOWING, FYI, IS THE DRAFT JOINT STATEMENT AGREED TO ON
TAGS: MARR, AS, US
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005